

March 6, 1996

LB 496, 923

CLERK: 27 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 923.

SPEAKER WITHM: LB 923 is advanced. LB 496.

CLERK: Mr. President, 496, a bill introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 17 of last year. At that time was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee, advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending. (Standing Committee amendment, AM2747 is found on pages 620-24 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHM: Senator Wesely, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, yes, this piece of legislation, I hope you have a chance to look at the committee statement. You'll see a long list of individuals who testified in support of it. You'll find a great deal of interest in an effort to try to address a very serious problem in state of Nebraska, that being Parkinson's Disease. We do not yet know what causes the Parkinson's Disease and we are attempting to establish, under this legislation, a registry so we can start to track where it occurs and perhaps some background about the situation that might have led to its occurrence and so we can try and head it off and try to stop its impact on citizens in this state. What the committee amendments do is take the basic thrust of the legislation and conform it to existing registries that we have in place now: the Brain Injury Registry that Senator Lynch had passed a few years ago; the Cancer Registry, which we've had in place for a number of years. The Parkinson's Disease Registry would be added to that list. And, again, what we do with the amendment is have it conform with the language that we had in the previous registries. The reporting requirement is for the physicians and for pharmacists. Physicians do, I think, have within sixty days of diagnosis and the pharmacists do it on a twice a year basis. The registry has the information, it's confidential information, but available to researchers who can then use that to study causes and effect of Parkinson's Disease. We do protect this information. There is a penalty clause for disclosure of it. And we do have the registry sunset in the year 2015 with the committee amendment. With that, I'd be ready to answer any questions and also